Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 L-03 NEA-10 /049 W ------160540Z 058136 /17

R 151604Z FEB 77 FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5321 INFO FAA ADMINISTRATOR WASHDC

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DEPT FOR A/SY AND EUR/SE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, CY, ASEC

SUBJECT: SECURITY PROCEDURES--LARNACA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

REF: 76 NICOSIA 3804

1. RSO RECENTLY CONDUCTED A SURVEY OF SECURITY PROCEDURES AT LARNACA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (LCA). RESULTS FOLLOW:

A. LARNACA INTERNATIONAL IS PROTECTED BY A DETACHMENT OF 13 CYPRIOT POLICEMEN AT ANY GIVEN TIME.

B. ARRIVING AIRCRAFT ARE ALWAYS OVERSEEN BY POLICEMEN ARMED WITH AUTOMATIC WEAPONS.

C. ALTHOUGH THE CYPRUS POLICE AT LCA CLAIM THAT ONLY AUTHORIZED PERSONS AND VEHICLES (INCLUDING THOSE FROM ALL DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS) ARE PERMITTED TO DRIVE OUT TO THE TARMAC, THIS IS NOT THE CASE. ENFORCEMENT IS GENERALLY LAX.

D. THE CYPRUS POLICE DETACHMENT AT LCA DOES NOT HAVE ITS OWN EOD TEAM. IF NEEDED, SUCH A TEAM MUST BE REQUESTED FROM NICOSIA, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ONE HOUR AWAY BY AUTO.

E. TWELVE AIRLINES FLY OUT OF LCA. OF THAT NUMBER,
THE FOLLOWING AIRLINES HAVE NO REPEAT NO CARRY-ON
LUGGAGE INSPECTION:
OLYMPIC AIRWAYS
MIDDLE EAST

SYRIAN ARAB KUWAIT AIRWAYS INTERFLUG BALKAN

F. CHECKED OR HOLD LUGGAGE ON CY FLIGHTS DEPARTING FOR TEL AVIV IS SEARCHED BY HAND. THE PROCEDURE TAKES APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR. THIS PROCEDURE WAS LEVIED ON CY BY ISRAELI AUTHORITIES.

G. GOC OFFICIALS HAVING DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY IN HANDLING AIRCRAFT HIJACKINGSARE LOCATED IN NICOSIA. SEE REFTEL.

H. PERSONS OTHER THAN PASSENGERS AND AIRPORT/AIRLINE EMPLOYEES ARE MERMITTED TO WANDER UP TO THE DEPARTURE GATES OF THE TERMINAL LEADING TO THE TARMAC.

2. EMBASSY OFFICERS WILL TACTFULLY CONVEY THESE OBSERVATIONS TO APPROPRIATE GOC AUTHORITIES, BUT NO FORMAL ACTION WILL BE TAKEN UNLESS WE ARE INSTRUCTED. CRAWFORD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: REPORTS, AIRPORTS, PROCEDURAL SECURITY

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 15-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NICOSI00451
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:** Film Number: D770054-0875

Format: TEL

From: NICOSIA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770241/aaaabjtm.tel

Line Count: 84 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 233acec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION SY

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 76 NICOSIA 3804

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 12-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3319661 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: SECURITY PROCEDURES--LARNACA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

TAGS: EAIR, ASEC, CY

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/233acec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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